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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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MEMORANDUM FOR GENERAL SMITH:

Your attention is called particularly to the attached proposed directive of the National Security Council. In general, it seems to me to be sound, but I should like to discuss it with Mr. Houston of our Legal Staff and perhaps with one or more of the Assistant Directors. Thereafter, it might be helpful if you and I discuss it with Admiral Hillenkoetter, who is, I believe, in general agreement with the directive. It would also seem to be advisable for you to have considered the directive prior to your meetings with the various members of the Intelligence Advisory Committee.

*W.H.J.*  
WILLIAM H. JACKSON  
Deputy Director of  
Central Intelligence

NSC review(s) completed.

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*NSC review(s) completed*

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NSC DIRECTIVE

Pursuant to the provisions of paragraphs (d) and (e) of Section 102 of the National Security Act of 1947 and in furtherance of paragraphs 5 and 6.a (2) of NSC 50, the National Security Council hereby authorizes and directs the following readjustment of the functions and organization of the Central Intelligence Agency, and the responsibilities of the other agencies in support of the national intelligence mission, in order specifically to insure more effective production of national intelligence estimates and studies, and to provide continuous surveillance of current intelligence:

GENERAL

1. National intelligence is that intelligence required in the formulation of policy at the national (i.e. supra-departmental) level. As stated in NSCID 3, such intelligence inevitably "covers the broad aspects of national policy and national security", and normally it "transcends the exclusive competence of a single department or agency or the military establishment". Regardless of its content, however, intelligence used in the formulation of national policy must have an inter-departmental basis, i.e., it must embody pertinent departmental intelligence resources and be subjected to adequate safeguards against bias. Strictly political or strictly military intelligence estimates, for example, should be considered as national intelligence in those cases where such estimates are required in the formulation of policy at the national level, and as such will be processed in accordance with the policies set forth herein.

~~SECRET~~

S E C R E T

- 2 -

Because national intelligence serves as a basis for the formulation of policy at the national level, it is essential that it represent in every instance a synthesis of all pertinent intelligence and information available to the departments. Such a synthesis should be based on a cooperative process of preparation in which departmental contributions, oral or written, and departmental intelligence views are fully considered at all stages of production. Intelligence which has not been so produced should not normally be disseminated as national intelligence.

INTELLIGENCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

2. Composition

The Intelligence Advisory Committee shall consist of the intelligence chiefs of the Departments of State, Army, Navy and Air Force, the Director of the Joint Intelligence Group, the Director of Intelligence of the Atomic Energy Commission, and the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The Director of Central Intelligence shall preside at meetings of the IAC. The Director of Central Intelligence, and each IAC member, shall designate a qualified member of his staff for duty with the IAC, and such designees shall be fully empowered to take final action on all matters covered by this Directive not specifically requiring action by the designating officer personally.

3. Mission

a. In carrying out its general function of advising the DCI, the mission of the IAC with respect to national intelligence shall be to advise specifically on:

S E C R E T

S E C R E T

- 3 -

(1) The initiation of timely national intelligence requirements to cover future foreseeable needs for national estimates and studies of a continuing, recurrent, or emergency nature.

(2) The desirability and feasibility of national estimates and studies which the DCI may initiate.

(3) Drafts of national estimates and studies prepared by the National Estimates Staff, specifying unanimous concurrence or substantive dissent by individual members. All issues under review on which dissent is pending shall be considered by the assembled IAC.

(4) Plans and projects and other matters throughout the Government coming to their individual or collective attention, which should be based on national intelligence estimates.

b. In addition to the functions outlined above, it shall be the mission of the IAC,

(1) By keeping under continuing review critical current intelligence, to be prepared to advise the DCI if an emergency threatens or prompt executive action is indicated.

(2) To recommend to the DCI the preparation and nature of intelligence summaries and reports deemed useful to executive officials responsible for national policy.

(3) To recommend to the DCI the preparation of special intelligence products in recognized fields of common interest.

(4) To advise the DCI on collaboration with foreign intelligence agencies respecting the formulation of combined estimates.

S E C R E T

S E C R E T

- 4 -

4. Location

The permanent headquarters for deliberations of the IAC shall be conveniently located with respect to the National Intelligence Group (hereafter described) and its facilities. The housing and facilities for both the IAC and the National Intelligence Group shall be provided by the CIA.

NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP (NIG)

5. Composition

The National Intelligence Group shall be established as an organic part of CIA. It shall consist of a National Estimates Staff and Current Intelligence Staff. A part of the professional and all clerical personnel of the Group shall be provided by CIA. A proportion of the professional personnel shall be provided by detail from departmental agencies for duty with CIA; each individual so detailed shall be acceptable to the DCI and responsible to him. The DCI shall provide the necessary personnel authorizations as well as reimbursement for civilian personnel assigned. He shall also provide spaces for assigned military personnel which will be additional to the personnel authorizations of the respective service intelligence agencies.

NATIONAL ESTIMATES STAFF (NES)

6. Mission

The National Estimates Staff shall:

- a. Break down intelligence requisitions approved by the DCI into component requisitions upon the several departmental agencies

and CIA for their appropriate contributions of intelligence

S E C R E T

S E C R E T

- 5 -

material, giving clear specifications as to the nature and scope of material required and deadline dates for completion.

b. By evaluation, analysis and synthesis of intelligence contributed in appropriate form and content by the several departmental intelligence agencies and offices of CIA, prepare drafts of national estimates and studies.

c. Except in situations where DCI determines such procedures cannot be complied with, present draft estimates and studies for consideration of the members of IAC prior to formal review by that body. Representatives of the National Estimates Staff normally shall be present when the drafts are considered by the IAC and shall be authorized to furnish orally additional reasoning or factual knowledge in support of statements or conclusions in the drafts.

d. From critical information received from the Current Intelligence Staff or any other source indicating the need for timely executive action on any scale, prepare crisis estimates for prompt submission to the DCI and the IAC.

e. Periodically report to the presiding officer of the IAC on the adequacy and completeness of available information required in the preparation of national estimates.

f. Collaborate with the Current Intelligence Staff in order to insure that estimates and studies reflect the most recent credible information, and contra-wise, that the reasoning of current intelligence publications is not inconsistent with well-confirmed long-range intelligence.

S E C R E T

S E C R E T

- 6 -

CURRENT INTELLIGENCE STAFF (CIS)

7. Mission

The Current Intelligence Staff shall be organized and staffed to effect:

a. The prompt and systematic receipt, surveillance, and appropriate situation room display of all radio, wire, and otherwise rapidly-dispatched current information received in all agencies and departments of the Government which may be of significance in the preparation of current intelligence required by executives responsible for the formulation or implementation of national policy.

b. The conduct of a 24-hour watch on incoming information with provisions for immediate alert of the DCI, NIG, and the members of the IAC upon the indication of critical or emergency situations which might require the preparation of crisis estimates or timely executive action on any scale.

c. The identification and preparation of "hot" information obtained by offices within CIA or from other sources for dissemination by the DCI if in his opinion it is of sufficient importance and urgency to be furnished without delay to the President, the appropriate members of the National Security Council, and the IAC.

d. The preparation and dissemination, with speed appropriate to the apparent significance of the information, of periodic current intelligence summaries patterned to the needs of the

S E C R E T

S E C R E T

- 7 -

executives responsible for the formulation or implementation of national policy. To the extent practicable, the material in such summaries which is of predominant interest to a member agency shall be coordinated with that agency.

e. The operation of an intelligence situation room designed to serve the needs of the above-mentioned executive officials and their principal assistants, the IAC, and the National Estimates Staff.

MISSIONS OF  
DEPARTMENTAL AGENCIES AND CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
(with respect to national intelligence)

8. Departmental Agencies

The several departmental agencies of the IAC shall:

a. Furnish upon requisition of the National Estimates Staff, within the deadline dates prescribed, appropriate intelligence in form and content as required by the NES to provide for national intelligence projects.

b. Be prepared to make oral presentations in the NES in support of their respective intelligence contributions at their own request or when requested by the NES.

c. Furnish to the CIS in the most expeditious manner possible all radio, wire, and rapidly-dispatched current information of possible significance to the current intelligence mission of the CIA. In this category of information should be included the intelligence content or implications of operational messages.

S E C R E T



S E C R E T

- 3 -

d. In the event that intelligence studies in subjects of primary interest are prepared departmentally which have the characteristics of national intelligence and are intended for dissemination above departmental level, they will, as national intelligence, be processed according to the terms of this paper.

e. In the choice of personnel to be detailed for duty with the National Intelligence Group, nominate individuals of highest professional qualifications.

9. Central Intelligence Agency

a. All offices of CIA having intelligence resources shall contribute to the requirements of the NIS and the CIS in accordance with the same principles as Federal agencies outside of CIA.

b. Intelligence offices of CIA, other than the National Intelligence Group, shall produce intelligence prescribed in paragraphs (4) and (5) of Section 102(d) of the National Security Act of 1947 and implementing NSC directives.

c. Intelligence studies prepared under paragraph 9.b, above, if of a character to be employed as national intelligence, will be processed in accordance with this paper.

d. The Director of Central Intelligence, or representatives designated by him, shall make such surveys and inspections of departmental intelligence activities and facilities of the various departments and agencies of the Government as he may

S E C R E T

S E C R E T

- 9 -

deem necessary in connection with his duty to advise the National Security Council and to make recommendations for or to bring about the coordination or improvement of intelligence activities. This authority is subject to the provisions of Section 102(e) of the National Security Act of 1947, as amended, regarding the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

1C. Responsibility of Director, Central Intelligence Agency, and  
Heads of other Federal Intelligence Agencies

a. By virtue of the mission assigned in the National Security Act of 1947 to CIA to correlate and evaluate intelligence relating to the national security (defined by the National Security Council as "national intelligence"), and to provide for appropriate dissemination thereof, using where appropriate existing agencies and facilities, and the Agency's mission to make recommendations to the NSC for the coordination of intelligence activities to this end, the DCI is responsible to the NSC for the implementation of this Directive. His available means are the coordinated resources of departmental intelligence agencies of the Government and of CIA itself.

b. The other members of the IAC are responsible, however, in their obligation to support with their full resources the mechanism set up in this Directive to accomplish national intelligence objectives of CIA.

S E C R E T

- 10 -

c. "National intelligence" therefore shall be disseminated under the final responsibility of the DCI; provided, however, that normally such national intelligence shall not be disseminated without a statement indicating concurrence of the members of the Intelligence Advisory Committee or, when there is a non-concurrence, a statement of substantially differing opinion. In the event the IAC or any member fails to act in the preparation of, or to indicate his approval or dissent with respect to, a national estimate or study, or whenever the DCI deems such action essential as provided in paragraph 6.c, he shall proceed with dissemination in accordance with his statutory responsibility.

d. National intelligence is that intelligence needed at the appropriate levels of the Government in the formulation and execution of national policies. National intelligence shall be produced only by the Central Intelligence Agency, and shall be produced primarily for the President and the National Security Council, and for other departments and agencies of the Government as appropriate. In the production of national intelligence, the Central Intelligence Agency may draw upon and review the intelligence production of the departmental intelligence agencies. The Director of Central Intelligence will not be bound by any concept of collective responsibility in the production of national intelligence as he has the direct and sole responsibility for such production.

S E C R E T

- 11 -

e. The Central Intelligence Agency shall also produce:

(1) Intelligence in fields of common concern which it determines can be more efficiently produced centrally; and

(2) Intelligence not otherwise available which is required to support the Central Intelligence Agency production and operations as well as those of other appropriate governmental agencies.

f. Whenever the Central Intelligence Agency deems it advisable, the Agency may, prior to publication for general dissemination, request the appropriate departmental intelligence agencies to examine Central Intelligence Agency reports and estimates for the purpose of ascertaining departmental views on aspects which are related to their respective individual departmental or agency intelligence interests. Intelligence so examined shall carry a statement of agency concurrence therein, or a comment which sets forth the substantial points of difference; provided, that delays in the receipt by the Central Intelligence Agency of such comments shall not bar the timely dissemination of national intelligence.

S E C R E T